

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

3/4/2011

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## **IMPROVING LITERACY THROUGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES GRANT DEADLINE**

This Department of Education program helps improve reading achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media centers; and professionally certified school library media specialists.

School districts may use funds for the following activities:

- Purchase up-to-date school library media resources, including books;
- Acquire and use advanced technology that is integrated into the curriculum to develop and enhance the information literacy, information retrieval, and critical-thinking skills of students;
- Facilitate Internet links and other resource-sharing networks;
- Provide professional development for school library media specialists serving PK-3 students and provide activities that foster increased collaboration among library specialists, teachers, and administrators of PK-12 students; and
- Provide students with access to school libraries during nonschool hours, weekends, and summer vacations.

The application deadline is March 28, 2011. Local education agencies in which at least 20 percent of students served are from families with incomes below the poverty line may apply. For more information, visit <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/lsl/applicant.html>. (Copied from Washington State Library Updates February 24, 2011)

## **ONLINE EXHIBIT: JEFF BROWN'S GREAT ALASKA GAME SHOW**

The Alaska State Museum has a new online exhibit based on their very popular "Great Alaska Game Show" exhibit by Jeff Brown. The online exhibit is available at [http://www.museums.state.ak.us/online\\_exhibits/AlaskaGameShow.html](http://www.museums.state.ak.us/online_exhibits/AlaskaGameShow.html) and examines games in Alaska from a variety of eras and cultural groups. The exhibit includes a 27 page activity guide

and photographs from the Alaska State Library's Historical Collections. Exhibit is best viewed with a broadband connection.

## **STATEWIDE LIBRARY ARCHIVES MUSEUM COMMUNITY WORKSHOP**

JUNEAU -- On Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. the design team and the State of Alaska will host an open-forum workshop for the Library Archives Museum building project. Join a discussion of project-specific innovations in energy efficiency and sustainable design. Schematic drawings and narratives will be available for review and discussion. The workshop will be held upstairs at the Alaska State Museum, located at 395 Whittier Street in Juneau.

For additional information please contact Brian Meissner via email at [bmeissner@ecihyer.com](mailto:bmeissner@ecihyer.com) or telephone (907)561-5543. Additional project information may be found at [www.alaskalamp.blogspot.com](http://www.alaskalamp.blogspot.com).

## **ALASKA'S TALKING BOOK CENTER TO CELEBRATE 80 YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND**

ANCHORAGE -- On March 3, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) – the Library of Congress' talking-book and Braille program – celebrated 80 years of helping visually impaired and physically disabled individuals enjoy reading their favorite books and magazines. On March 22, Alaska's Talking Book Center will host a birthday party for its library patrons in Anchorage to mark this national event.

This free library program brings reading materials in digital audio and Braille formats straight to the homes of patrons from preschoolers to centenarians. Books on digital cartridge, digital talking-book players and Braille books are sent to patrons via the U.S. mail at no cost to users. People who sign up with the program also have the option of downloading books and magazines over the Internet in audio or Braille format. By law, priority is given to U.S. military veterans.

The Alaska State Library Talking Book Center, located in Anchorage, has been providing service to Alaskans since 1972. Congress appropriates funds annually to the Library of Congress for the NLS program, while staff, rent, and overhead for Alaska's Talking Book Center are funded by the State of Alaska through the Department of Education & Early Development. The birthday party for NLS will be held on Tuesday, March 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Talking Book Center, located at 344 West Third, Suite 125 in Anchorage.

"The Talking Book Center is an excellent resource for visually impaired and physically disabled Alaskans. The service offers recorded books – and is moving into the digital age – to help all Alaskans access literacy," said Linda Thibodeau, Alaska State Librarian. "I congratulate the National Library Service for its 80 years, and thank our state's Talking Book Center staff for their dedication. This is clearly an important service to Alaskans: our 953 patrons checked out nearly 46,000 books and magazines last year!"

The NLS collection of more than 400,000 titles of bestsellers, classics, biographies, romance and other genres delights even the most selective readers. Magazine lovers enjoy free subscriptions to more than 40 periodicals in audio format, including *Consumer Reports*, *National Geographic*, and *Sports Illustrated for Kids*.

“Talking books offer a wonderful opportunity for anyone who cannot use regular print materials because of blindness or a physical disability,” says NLS Director Kurt Cylke. “For 80 years this service has been a priceless gift.”

The NLS program also keeps pace with the latest book titles, adding 2,500 annually. Patrons learn of new releases through two bi-monthly magazines, *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review*.

Those interested in learning more or signing up for service may call the Alaska State Library Talking Book Center at 1-800-776-6566 or 1-907-269-6575. Visit the Alaska State Library Talking Book Center at <http://library.state.ak.us/dev/tbc.html> or the NLS website at <http://www.loc.gov/nls/>.

**Contact Information:** Patience Frederiksen, 907-269-6566; [Patience.Frederiksen@alaska.gov](mailto:Patience.Frederiksen@alaska.gov)

## THE “BIG ONE” SHAKES UP BARANOV MUSEUM

The Kodiak Daily Mirror reports this week that the Baranov Museum on Kodiak Island will be opening an exhibit on earthquakes this Saturday with a focus on the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake. The travelling exhibit is titled “The Big One: Earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest.” The exhibit was originally Washington State focused, but Baranov Museum Education coordinator Marie Acemah added additional elements such as a video wall of interviews with Good Friday Earthquake survivors.

According to the article, the exhibit also features: “...photos of downtown Kodiak with pins on strings attached to a map of the downtown area to show what happened to the buildings.

There’s a map of the downtown area that shows the water line — where the water came in — and it also shows all of the boats that were brought inland and all of the buildings that were downtown, where they started and where they ended up,”

It sounds like an exciting exhibit!

Reference: Garcia, Louis. **1964 quake exhibit opens at Baranov Museum.** Kodiak Daily Mirror, March 3, 2011. Accessed at <http://www.kodiakdailymirror.com/?pid=19&id=9629>.

Baranov Museum home page – <http://www.baranovmuseum.org>

Baranov Museum Facebook page - <http://www.facebook.com/BaranovMuseum>

